



2010

## Santos Named Technos Prize Winner

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### Recommended Citation

Hatch, Rachel, "Santos Named Technos Prize Winner" (2010). *News and Events*. Paper 1406.  
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## Santos Named Technos Prize Winner

April 15, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University senior Janelle Santos has been named the 2010 recipient of the Technos International Prize through the Tanaka Ikueikai Educational Trust in Japan.

The trust, founded by Japanese businessman and honorary Illinois Wesleyan trustee Kenji Tanaka, honors those who are committed to improving and promoting international relations around the world.

A double major in international studies and sociology, Santos traveled to Japan in June of 2008 as one of those chosen to attend Technos International Week, and presented her experiences during an Asian Colloquium back on the Illinois Wesleyan campus.

A Harwood Heights, Ill., native, Santos has completed internships with the Home Sweet Home homeless shelter in Bloomington, the Illinois Department of Human Services in Chicago, and the Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Ministries, which allowed her the chance to work with refugee children from nations including Myanmar, Bhutan and Iraq. “The time I spent with the kids allowed me to discover the stories of actual children and families who were forced to escape from their native countries, and who now seek to make the most of life in America,” Santos said in her award application.

During the fall of 2009, Santos studied abroad at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, where she embarked on a research project studying native English-speaking teachers working in the capital city. While in Korea, she also volunteered for organizations working with children.

Back home in the states, Santos has volunteered for the Unity Community Center in Normal. She is a member of the international studies honors society Phi Beta Delta, the sociology honors society Alpha Kappa Delta, the liberal arts honorary society Phi Beta Kappa, the all-discipline honors society Phi Kappa Phi, and the national college seniors’ honor society Mortar Board. On campus, she is also a member of the Anime Club and the Titan Band.

After graduation in May, Santos hopes to join the Peace Corps, or serve as an English as a Second Language teacher in north Africa or the Middle East.

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